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ALSAGER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year

1951.





1.

AISAGER URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors.

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1951.

Statistics of the Area. Area 2241 acres.

Registrar General's estimate of the population in 1951.	5,823.
Number of inhabited houses and premises (end of 1951) according to the Rate Books.	1,710.
Rateable value.	£32,604
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 125.

<u>Vital statistics.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live births, Registered in the district.	27	13	14

Birth rate per 1,000 inhabitants. 4.8.

Still births, Registered in the district.	-
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<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Within the area.	45	18	27
Transferable from areas outside	19	9	10
Total deaths in the area	64		
Death rate per 1,000 inhabitants.	10.9		
Death from puerperal sepsis.	-		
Death of infants under one year.	1 Female.		

Deaths from whooping cough or measles	-
Deaths from infantile diarrhoea.	-

Ages at death

Under 1 year	1	
1 - 10	0	
10 - 20	1	
20 - 30	0	
30 - 40	0	
40 - 50	6	
50 - 60	12	
60 - 70	10	
70 - 80	19	
Over 80	13	
Over 90	2	
	<u>64</u>	

Causes of death.

Carcinoma	10
Arterio Sclerosis	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	9
Cerebral Thrombosis	3
Broncho-pneumonia	3
Disease of the heart and Myocardium	5
Disease of the lungs	2
Senile decay	12
Uraemia	1
Coronary Thrombosis	9
Accident (Buried in sandpit)	1
Polioomyelitis	1
Other diseases	6

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Public Health Officers of the Authority.

1. Medical Officer of Health (a part time official).
2. Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (a whole-time official).

Laboratory facilities.

The Pathological department of the Royal Infirmary, Chester is available for all forms of chemical and bacteriological examination.

The County Analyst, Dr. Melling for the examination of water, also the Public Health Service Laboratory at Monsol Hospital, Manchester.

Ambulance Facilities.

When the Health service was taken over by the County Council, the Ambulance vehicle stationed at Alsager was merged into the County Scheme, and it soon became apparent that a full time driver and part time attendant were necessary and arrangements to this effect were made accordingly.

The Council administers the service for the County under the direction of the Divisional Medical Officer.

This has proved a very great advantage to the Alsager District although additional duties are imposed upon the Staff of the Sanitary Inspector.

Nursing in the home.

Since the commencement of the National Health Service on July 5th, 1948 a new arrangement has been made whereby our at one time part time nurse, Nurse Weatherall has been taken over by the County Association.

She is now employed full time in Alsager U.D. Area and in Radway Green and Barthomley. In certain cases on the recommendation of the local Health Visitor, home helps can be obtained from the Divisional Office.

For the nursing of certain infectious diseases, patients are at once removed to an isolation hospital unless private isolation can be provided.

Crewe Isolation, Davenham or Macclesfield Isolation are available for this area.

Venereal cases can obtain treatment from their local medical practitioners by arrangement with the North Stafford Royal Infirmary or the Crewe Memorial Hospital.

An orthopaedic clinic at the Railway Ambulance Rooms, Crewe at which an Orthopaedic Surgeon attends at monthly intervals.

Infant Welfare. An Infant Welfare Clinic is held at St. Mary's Schools, Alsager on alternate Tuesday afternoons, which is well attended.

Maternity. Beds are available at the Maternity Hospital, The Cliff, Wymbury, which serves the needs of the Alsager Urban District.

Midwifery Service. A Maternity nurse, appointed by the County Council provides a domiciliary service in the district, under the County Council Scheme (Midwife's Act, 1936.)

Mental Health Service.

Under the National Health Service the duties which have been hitherto discharged by the District Relieving Officer are carried out by an authorised officer of the Public Health Committee of the County Council. The Officer for the Alsager Area is Mr. R.E. Broach, 1, Gatefield Street, Crewe. Private address 180, Crewe Road, Alsager.

Prevalence and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

There were 90 cases of notifiable disease under the Public Health Act, during the year as follows:-

There were no fresh notifications of Tuberculosis.

Measles	54	
Whooping cough	17	
Acute primary		
Pneumonia	13	
Scarlet fever	1	
Acute Polio-myelitis	3	
Diphtheria (suspected)	2	neither case was confirmed.
Total.	90	

Tuberculosis. Only two cases were added to the Register during 1951. There were two females aged 20 and 28 respectively.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough
Record cards of Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough are supplied by the County Council and are kept in all cases. They are filled in by the Doctor completing the process and forwarded to the Divisional Medical Officer, 11, West Street, Congleton.

The prevalence of Cancer is slightly below the average. There were 10 deaths from it during 1951.

As there is now no Public Vaccinator in the district since the introduction of the Health Act, vaccination is carried out by the Practitioner concerned and a record is kept and sent to the Divisional Medical Officer.

Yours faithfully,

H.P. Harpur, M.D.

20th June, 1952.

Medical Officer of Health.

Water Supply.

Water Supply. During the year No. 1 Pump was overhauled and it was possible to maintain the supply with reduced hours of pumping. Upon examination the water proved to be increasing in hardness and a considerable increase in the amount of salt has resulted to bring the water to reasonable degree of hardness.

Copy of Analyst's Report.COUNTY COUNCIL OF CHESTER.

REPORT upon a Sample of Water received from Messrs. Alsager Urban District Council.

Number -
Description Water taken from tap in Council Offices.
Date and hour collected. 10th July, 9 a.m.
Date received. same day.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS.

A clear and colourless water; free from odour and deposit.

Reaction;- PH., 7.4.

ANALYTICAL RETURNS. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).	
Total solids in solution.	54
Non-volatile (mineral) solids	-
Loss on ignition (organic and volatile matter)	-
Total suspended solids	nil
Total hardness	21.5
Temporary hardness	21.0
Permanent hardness.	0.5
Combined chlorine,	3.85
Toxic metals,	nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen ("Free and Saline ammonia")	0.002
Albuminoid do. ("Albuminoid ammonia")	0.001
Nitrous do. (nitrites)	nil
Nitric do. (nitrates)	0.03
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 26.7° C	0.021

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

per cubic centimetre.	
Number of organisms developing on:-	
(a) Agar-agar media at 20° C	-
(b) Agar-agar media at 37° C	1
B. Coli aerogenes (presumptive test):-	
Positive in	-
Negative in 5 vols each of 1.0 & 10.0 ml and in 50 ml.	
Probable number per 100 c.c.	0

OPINION. A water possessing excellent physical characters, free from deposit, of quite satisfactory organic and wholesome bacteriological quality and suitable for potable use.

County Analyst.

17th July, 1951.

Both Day Green and Longview Sewage Disposal Works are operating at full capacity and in view of the continued expansion of housing schemes considerable extensions are envisaged.

Sludge drying remains a difficult problem and an outlet for dry sludge has not yet been obtained.

Refuse disposal. A new tip has been commenced at Linley and at Day Green Sewage Works with some temporary tipping at the Sand Pits.

The volume of salvage has increased.

Housing Inspections. The total number of houses visited is 89. The number re-visited is 49.

The number of houses not in all respects fit	51
Number of houses unfit for habitation	Nil.
Number of informal notices served	51
Number of statutory notices served.	3
" " defects remedied (a) informal	35
(b) Statutory	2
Number brought forward from 1950.	14
Number outstanding	(a) informal 30
	(b) statutory 1

Inspection of Food.

Visits are made to shops and bakehouses and small quantities of food are condemned.

The samples of ice cream made locally have been analysed during the year and found to be satisfactory.

Byelaws have been approved and put into operation.

Supervision of new buildings. Frequent inspections are made of all work to which Building byelaws apply and all the builders have co-operated to comply with the existing byelaws.

Rodent Control. No serious infestation exists in the District and the following table shows the work carried out during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.
REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Name of Local Authority Alsager Urban District
Council. County. Cheshire.

Type of Property.

	Local Authority.	Dwelling houses.	Agri-cultural.	All other including Business & Industrial	Total.
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District.	12	1507	20	60	1599
II. Number of properties inspected by the L.A. during 1951 as a result (a) of notification, or (b) otherwise.	(a) -	43	-	5	48
	(b) 12	30	9	6	57
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rates.	Major -	-	-	-	-
	Minor 6	41	2	4	53

Local Dwelling Agricul- All other Total.
Author- Houses. tural. including
tiy. Business &
Industrial.

IV.No. of properties (under II) seriously infested by mice.	-	4	-	-	-
V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by Local Authority.	6	45	2	4	57
VI. No.of notices served under Section 4:-					
(1)Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(2)Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
VII. No. of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4.	-	-	-	-	-
V.III. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. No. of "block " control schemes carried out.			-		

New buildings. The Council have completed 10 houses, Audley Road, West, 6 houses at Close Lane, 4 at Well Lane and 2 at Meadowcroft.

The Close Lane scheme was let to a firm from Birmingham who later withdrew causing an unfortunate delay. One builder made a deed of assignment and another failed to complete his Contract and at the end of the year 34 houses were under construction and negotiations for Close Lane scheme with another Contractor.

The Council during the year decided to carry out site works by Direct Labour and a start was made at Well Lane.

Layouts were prepared during the year for the second stage of the Close Lane Scheme and Talke Road layout and negotiations were in hand for the purchase of land off Sandbach Road to be re-sold in plots for Private development.

Record of Inspections, visits. etc.

Housing Inspections	89
Re-visits	49
Refuse collection	34
Sewerage and Drainage	106
Water supply	61
Shops Act.	6
Factories and Workshops.	43
Public Conveniences	6
Council Houses	147

	541
Caravans	1
Milk and dairies	3
Meat and foods	24
Infectious disease	7
New buildings (private)	77
Public Houses	3
Nuisances	9
Civil Defence	10
Rodent Control	6
Interviews (Public Health)	176
	<u>857</u>

Conclusion. I would like to express my appreciation to The Chairman and Members of the Council, to the Medical Officer and to the Clerk of the Council for their valued co-operation in all branches of the work, and to the Staff for all assistance rendered during my second year in Alsager.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Geo. F. Taylor,

June, 1952.

Sanitary Inspector.

